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Burrill

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BURRILL LINEAGE

Compiled by Paul Colburn Burrill

Milwaukee, Wis.

1910.

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John Burrill

John Burrill 1658-1731

John Burrill 1694-1756

John Burrill 1719-

John Burrill 1752-1842

Jacob Burrill 1818-1891

John Henry Burrill 1842-1906

Paul Colburn Burrill, 1881-

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There were at least two distinct families of Burrills in Massachusetts in Colonial times. One was descended from George Burrill of Lynn, who was quite a prosperous farmer, one of the wealthiest of his town, and whose descendants were very prominent in the early days of the colony. One of them was for many years Speaker of the assembly. Another was chief Justice of Rhode Island and it is probably from him that a large Town in that state is named. The other Burrill family is descended from John Burrill of Weymouth.

John Burrill

founder of our line in America, arrived in Weymouth, which is a town in Massachusetts 10 or 15 miles southeast of Boston, as early as 1639. He married a Rebekah and had these three, if not more, children.

John b. 1658

Thomas b. Feb 2, 1659

Ephraim b. July 19, 1664.

John Burrill

son of the preceding, was born in 1658. We know that he married Mercy Alden in Taunton on June 26, 1688.

This is supposed to be a grand daughter of John Alden and Priscilla, who came over in the Mayflower and who are celebrated in verse in Longfellow's "The Courtship of Miles Standish." John Alden was a young clerk. After the terrible first winter of 1620-21 during which more than half of the Pilgrims had died, he married Priscilla Mullins, both of whose parents,

Wm. and Alice Mullins had
succumbed to hunger or cold
during that first winter.

Although not originally a member
of the Pilgrims - he was hired
at Southampton as a cooper -
we find him signing the pact
they made before landing and
coming to be an honored and
useful member of the colony.

He was assistant for the colony
to governor Winslow in 1633 and
served in that capacity for 42
years although not continuously.
He died in 1697, being the last male
survivor of the signers. Most
of his life he lived in Duxbury.
His oldest daughter Elizabeth

was the first white child born
in New England. He had eight
children: John, Joseph, David,
Jonathan, Elizabeth, Sarah, Ruth,
and Mary, and possibly more.

Mercy Alden is supposed to be
the daughter of Joseph who
was born in 1627 and married
Mary Simmons.

Children of John and
Mercy Burrill were

Elizabeth, b. Sept 25, 1689

Thomas, b. 1692

John, b. 1694.

John Burrill

son of the preceeding, was known as Capt. John. He was born in 1694 and married Jan 8, 1719, to Mary Humphrey of Hingham. Their Children were

John, b. Sept. 24, 1719

Joseph

Abraham b. 1721

Humphrie b. 1723

Thomas

Mary

This Mary Humphrey his wife was great grand daughter of John Humphrey who came to America in 1634. Her ancestors also include George and Sarah Lane and Wm. Lane, who were

in Dorchester in 1635.

This John Burrill removed to
Abington in 1741

John Burrill

son of the preceeding, born
Sept. 24, 1719 was known as
Sergeant John. His wife was
Ann Vinton and they had eight
children, four girls

Mary, b. Feb. 22, 1741

Ann, b. Mar 17, 1743

Elizabeth, b. Aug. 7, 1745

Miriam, b. Mar. 17, 1749

then four boys

John, b. Oct. 5, 1752

Bela, b. May 20, 1756

Nathaniel, b. May 17, 1761

Ziba, b. Mar 12, 1765

Sergeant John was in the
French and Indian War and
served at St. John, New Bruns.

wick. The diary he kept during this campaign has been preserved and is published in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, vol 59 p 352. In this he writes on Dec. 16 of receiving a letter from his wife dated July 15, 1759. This diary begins with Aug. 3, 1759 and carries thru till he gets back to "Grandfather Humphres" at Hingham, July 22, 1760, and Wednesday the 23rd, he got home and found his wife and children as he had left them."

Ann Vinton mentioned above must have had a famous temper as the fame thereof

still survives as Miss Anna
Boynton Averill writes that her
grandfather Charles - brother
of Jacob Burrill to be
mentioned later - "had a quick
temper - like a flash of powder -
and almost as soon over - for
he was mainly a jolly, sunny-
tempered man and grandmother
used to laugh and tell what she
used to hear his mother say 'Here
comes the Vinton temper.'¹⁹

Ann Vinton's ancestors
include John and Ann Vinton
who arrived in Lynn probably
before 1648 and is the principal
ancestor of the Vintons in
America, Thomas Green, who

came from Leicester England
to about 1635 with his
wife Elizabeth, Joseph Hills
and his wife (who was Rose
Clark) who came to Charleston
in 1638, Richard Thayer of
Boston who was admitted
freeman in Boston in 1640,
Quinton Pray of Lynn, John
Hayden who was freeman in
Dorchester in 1634, and Wm.
and Hannah Ames who settled
at Braintree as early as 1640.

John Burrill

son of the preceeding is
the Revolutionary War ancestor.
His pension record gives his
age as 57 when he made
application in 1819 which
is in error by 10 years if we
are to believe birth date given
before, but same record says
he was married Oct 5, 1817
to Eleanor Craig at Vienna,
Maine which would appear to
have been his 66th birthday
and the tradition comes
down that he married at
66 a widow of 33. He served
from January 1776 to Nov. 15,
same year as a private in

Captain Fuller's company, Colonel Bonds Regiment in the Massachusetts troops. He was living in Penobscot county, Maine, in 1819 and died at Sangerville, Maine, Sept. 11, 1842. His monument is in the Foxcroft cemetery.

His first wife was Betsy Brooks and among their children were

John

Charles

Jacob - who died early

Lucinda who married a Richardson, and

Cynthia whose husband was named Badger

His second family follows
Jacob, b. Apr 11, 1818, d. 1891

Mary, b 1820, married four
times, Roberts, Briggs, Poole, Moyer.
she died in 1892

Ziba

Eleanor, married Bootham
of Lincoln, Maine

John, b 1824, died 1879.

The first John went to
sea and became a captain
but died early of yellow
fever in New York harbor.

Eleanor Craig, the second
wife must have been married
several times as one report
is that she was a widow named
Haines and had a son named

Walter Haines and that her
"maiden name was Trout" It
is pretty well established
that she was the oldest
daughter of Thomas Craig
who, with his father James
Craig (wife Anna) came from
Dissent, England to Readfield,
Maine about the time of the
Revolution. Eleanor Craig was
born Oct 21, 1784. Who her
mother was is a mystery as
the record shows that the
wife of Thomas Craig (Rachel)
was born in New Hampshire
in 1773-Mch 12, which would
make her eleven years older
than Eleanor. The only in-

ference is that Thomas Craig was twice married and that his first three children were by his first wife. This Eleanor, or "Aunt Nellie" as she was known lived long after her husband and drew a pension as a Revolutionary widow. She died in 1860. It is related that John Burrill had kept a diary of his experiences in the Revolution but when John Henry Burrill, mentioned later, went down to Maine to see the old lady his grandmother and get this diary, she had used it all up for pipe lighters.

Jacob Burrill
son of the preceeding was
born at Dover, Me., Apr. ,
1818. He married Rachel
Pamelia Bennett in Novem-
ber 1841 and had the follow-
ing children

John Henry b. Aug 6, 1842

Robert, died in infancy

Adriana Melvina, b. Oct 30, 45,
married to Henry Langley and
now living in Fitchburg, Mass

Agusta, born June 15, 1848,
married to Chas. Putney and
after his death to Lewis
Smith and now living in

Herbert & Frederick, b. Jan

24, 1853. Married to Jean
McDonald and now living at
Hawley, Minn.

Eleanor, b Jan 10, 1855, now
the widow of Frank Spooner and
living in Fitchburg, Mass.

Herman Robert, b. Sept.
19, 1858. He married Harriet
McDonald, sister of Jean
McDonald above. Residence
Hawley, Minn.

Eugene, born and died
during the war. He was named
by his brother then in the army
who never saw him "after a
great and good soldier."

Susan, b July 19, 1865. Mar-
ried to Benjamin F. Jenkinson

and now residing at Hawley,
Minn.

Cora, born Feb. 13, 1867,
Married to Charles Brooks and
living in Minneapolis.

Jacob Burrill had Ten
children in all, seven of
whom are now (1910) living.
He always maintained that
he was born in Scituate,
Mass., but there is no record
of Burrills ever having lived
there. About 1850 he removed
from Maine to Framingham,
Mass. and a year later to Fitzwilliam,
N.H. and worked there many
years in the wooden ware
shops. About 1881 he went
west to Hawley, Minn. and

At Framingham he worked in the plant of the Boston & Maine R.R. Co.

took a homestead in the town of Keene, about 10 miles north of that village where he lived till his death Feb 19, 1891. He was a carpenter and his "New House" was in its day the best in the town. His last work was to superintend the building of the "new barn" built during the winter 1890-91, and he was wheeled from the house to the barn in a wheel barrow so that he might direct this work. He had the biggest head in the community so that whenever he needed a new hat, the local merchants always had to send

in a special order for a
7 $\frac{3}{4}$ " head piece.

Rachel Pamela Bennet
was born in Quebec, Canada,
Feb. 18, 1824 and died at
Hawley Minn., June 6, 1904.
Her Grand father, Nathaniel
Bennett, with his brothers
John and Isaac, was among
the first settlers of the town
of Guilford, Maine. Capt.
John Bennett brought the
first cow into the town and
built the first frame building
a barn. Nathaniel Bennett
was twice married and had
12 children. Among the first
family was Robert who was a

soldier in the war of 1812. It
maybe that he remained near
Lake Champlain after the war.
His wife was Hannah Melvina
Waters. Her father was a doctor
from Rhode Island. She was
probably born in Vermont. Robert
Bennett moved back to Guilford
in the fall of 1832 & died the
next spring leaving his wife
with 5 children, Rachel, men-
tioned above, John b. 1830, Robert
born 1832 & two others. Robert
Bennet, Sr. was born abt 1795.

John Henry Burrill

son of Jacob Burrill preceeding
was born at Abbott, Maine, Aug
2, 1842. About 1851 he removed
with his parents to Hallowville,
which is in the town of Fitz-
william, Cheshire County, N. H.
Here he worked in the wooden
ware factories, going to school
for a short term each winter
until he was eighteen. When
Lincoln called for the manhood
of his country to suppress
the rebellion, he enlisted for
three months, Apr. 25, 1861. A
month later he re-enlisted for
three years and was mustered
in as a private in Co. A. 2nd

N. H. Vols., May 31, 1861. His
regiment was the first 3 year
regiment to enter Washington.
He served with his regiment
at First Bull Run, the siege of
Yorktown, the battle of Williams-
burg, the Peninsula Campaign,
Second Bull Run where he
took a prisoner single handed,
Gettysburg, several engagements
near Petersburg, and Cold Harbor.
After his discharge June 21, 1864,
he went to St. Johnsbury, Ver-
mont and worked in the
Fairbanks Scale Factory but
the call of his comrades at
the front got him and on
Feb. 6, 1865, he re-enlisted in

Company C of the same regiment and served to the end of the war, entering Richmond Apr. 3, 1865. After Lee's surrender he was detailed, first as safeguard to a family in Virginia and later as quartermaster's clerk till he was mustered out Dec. 19, 1865.

He married, Feb. 22, 1866, Llewellyn M. Forristall, of Fitzwilliam and had these children:

Gertrude Louisa, b. July 5, 1867, now wife of Arthur L. Sholley, Aberdeen, So. Dak.

Mabel Rachel, b. Apr. 3, 1869, married July 6, 1891 to Leon D. Libbey, now raising oranges at

Phoenix, Arizona.

Allan Forristall, b Aug. 19, 1871,
married Dec. 1909 to Dazey
Pryor of Hawley, Minn. Removed
to Hutchinson Kansas and from
there to Eugene, Oregon where
he died Sept. 27, 1903 leaving
three children, Allan Frank,
Nabel Rachel, and Gertrude. His
widow married Allen C. Bearner
and is now living at Calgary,
Alberta, Canada. Allan Burrill
was a private in Company I,
13th Minn. Vols and served
with that regiment during the
Philippine War of 1898-9.

Infant.

The mother of these four

children died Sept. 29, 1874 at
Harley Minn.

On Jan. 20, 1878, John Henry
Burrill was married to Jane
Colburn. They had two children

Paul Colburn, born Feb. 25,
1881, married to Hilda Julia
Andrae and living in Milwau-
kee, Wis.

Margaret Clarissa, born Oct
24, 1884 and now living with
her mother in Minneapolis, Minn.

It was hard to go back after
the war to turning pails, so
John Henry migrated in 1870 to
Iowa, in 1871 to Minneapolis,
Minn, and the next year to
Brainerd, Minn. and in 1873, he

moved to a new town out on the extension of the Northern Pacific called Hawley where he lived the remainder of his days with the exception of a year and a half about 1891, at Superior, Wis. He took a home stead in the town of Cromwell, about two miles north of Hawley, but grasshoppers and floods and drought and frost drove him off the farm and after his return from Superior he lived in the village of Hawley. He was by trade a carpenter and did more or less of this work until his death June 12, 1906

At the time of his death he

was Commander of L. H. Tenney Post, G. A. R., afterward in Hawley Lodge of Masons and was and had been for many years a Justice of the Peace for the village. He was a lifelong Democrat in a country where Democrats were few, and an earnest member of the Methodist Church, and, although in 1902 he transferred his membership to the Union Church (Congregational) of Hawley, he still remained a Methodist at heart. He was an active temperance worker always appeared as a prosecutor when the local "blind pigs" were being ferretted out. Never rich, he

was honored and respected in the community; never schooled, he was well educated from much reading. He was twice invited to deliver the oration of the day at the local 4th of July celebrations. His was an upright and useful life

This record has many omissions and undoubtedly many errors. Will those who receive it communicate to the undersigned such corrections and additions as they can and some day it may be reissued in better form. If it gives its readers an added interest in and respect for the Burrill family I shall feel repaid.

Paul C. Burrill,

1518 - 9th Street,

Milwaukee, Wis.

Christmas 1910



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